

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD
STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

Landmark/District:	U Street Historic District	(X) Agenda
Address:	915 French St NW	() Consent
		(X) Concept
Meeting Date:	November 16, 2017	(X) Alteration
Case Number:		() New Construction
		() Demolition
		() Subdivision

On behalf of the owner, architect Dave Bloom seeks concept review to construct a third story addition with a roof deck on a two-story rowhouse in the U Street Historic District. The building is within a row of similar bay front, Italianate brick residences built as speculative housing in the late 1870s and 1880s by architect Brainard Warner.

Proposal

The third story addition will accommodate a new 11 foot wide stair opening with a 366 square foot room; the addition, to be clad in hardi-plank, would span between the rear portion of the main block and the rear ell wing. The addition will be set back 17'9 from the front and approximately 13' from the rear. The brick parapet wall, which will serve as the deck's guardrail, has already been expanded up three feet on the rear ell wing; the addition is proposed to be 6'2 in height and will rise only 4 feet higher than the existing parapet.

Evaluation

The addition is compatible with the historic district as it is not visible, does not overwhelm the underlying historic building, and does not detract from the character of a highly intact rear alleyscape.

Recommendation

The HPO recommends that the Board find the concept compatible with the character of the historic district and consistent with the purposes of the preservation act, and that final review be delegated to staff.

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